

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /069 W

-----152004Z 052625 /43

R 151322Z FEB 77

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1577

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 052

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DOLDRUMS, CONTINUED: VANGUARD

UNIONISTS WITHDRAW VOLUNTARY COALITION PROPOSAL

1. IN PERSONAL STATEMENT FEBRUARY 14 FOLLOWING PARTY COUNCIL MEETING WILLIAM CRAIG, LEADER OF VANGUARD UNIONIST PARTY WITHDREW HIS PROPOSAL FOR A VOLUNTARY COALITION TO SECURE THE RETURN OF DEVOLVED GOVERNMENT TO NORTHERN IRELAND. HE SAID THAT VANGUARD COULD NOT NOW ENVISAGE PARTICIPATING IN GOVERNMENT WITH THE SDLP (SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY) AND BLAMED RECENT SDLP UTTERANCES ("CLAPTRAP") FOR THE SITUATION. HE ALSO GAVE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT PART OF THE BLAME FOR "THE LACK OF POSITIVE THINKING."

2. JOHN HUME, DEPUTY SDLP LEADER, WHO NEVER GAVE UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT TO THE VOLUNTARY COALITION PROPOSAL, EXPRESSED REGRET AT MR. CRAIG'S DECISION. HE ATTRIBUTED THE POLICY CHANGE TO PRESSURE FROM OTHER LOYALISTS.

3. SECRETARY OF STATE ROY MASON HAS GIVEN NO RPT NO POSITIVE RESPONSE TO AN ALLIANCE PARTY PROPOSAL FOR ALL-PARTY TALKS AIMED AT DEFEATING TERRORISM. OFFICIAL UNIONISTS AND SDLP HAD UNCLASSIFIED

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INDICATED REFUSAL TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH TALKS BEFORE PROPOSAL WAS PUT TO MR. MASON.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL STABILITY, COALITION GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL PARTIES  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009